

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, lines 12 through 25 as follows:

Being able to identify individuals from crowds of people has many advantages. For example, it may be desirable to identify valuable customers entering a department store and ~~making in order to make~~ sure they are served promptly. Historically this is a manual process in which individuals, such as a store clerk, have the knowledge needed to identify important customers. In the example described above, a sales person may ~~require~~ be required to have past experience with the particular customer in order to know that the customer frequents the department store and buys many items. A challenge found is that if a new sales person is not aware of the valued customer, the valued customer may get frustrated with the lack of attention and may not return to the store.

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, beginning at line 24, and continuing through page 3, line 11, as follows:

Biometric technology is being developed that digitizes a person's features, such as facial structure, and ~~matched~~ matches them against a list of individual profiles. In the example described above, biometric technology may be able to identify a criminal if the criminal changes the color of his hair. However, biometric technology is currently used in conjunction with manual systems, such as displaying a matched image on a user's display console. The user, in turn, determines how to respond when a matched image is displayed. In addition, biometric matching technology is typically constrained to a particular location, such as identifying people in an auditorium. In the example described above, law enforcement first selects a given location where they suspect that the wanted individual may appear. A challenge found with existing art is the lack of end-to-end architecture that offers an automated identification system with a flexible and secure means to disseminate messages.

Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 8 through 24 as follows:

Figure 1 is a high-level diagram showing a biometric acquisition system identifying an individual and sending a message through a communications network. General population **100** includes individuals at various locations. For example, general population **100** may be people in

a mall, on public streets, in an auditorium, etc. Biometric sensors **110** capture raw data about general population **100**. Biometric sensors **110** may include cameras, microphones, heat sensors, etc. For example, cameras may be installed to take images of people at various locations. Biometric sensors **110** sends raw data to biometric acquisition system **120**. Biometric acquisition system **120** processes the raw data, and generates a signature. For example, the biometric acquisition system may receive pictures of individuals and generate a facial signature by sampling various points of the persons person's face, aggregating them, and ~~hash~~ hashing them into a face attribute value.